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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit: 2164

Examiner:

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APR 1 1 2001

Technology Center 2100

Applicant: Messmer, et al.

Serial No.: 09/737,038

Filed: December 14, 2000

METHODS AND APPARATUS

FOR SIMULATING

COMPETITIVE BIDDING

YIELD

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

APR 03 ,2001.

Robert E. Slenke Reg. No. 45,112

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Please amend the present patent application as set forth below.

IN THE DRAWINGS

On sheet 9 of the drawings, please delete "Figure 9" and substitute therefor "FIG. 14".

Remarks

Please enter the foregoing preliminary amendment prior to examination of the present application.

Applicants erroneously submitted two Figures labeled with the legend "Figure 9". Specifically, Applicants mislabeled drawing sheet 9 as "Figure 9" instead of "FIG. 14".